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**ATHERSTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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THE

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND OF THE

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**1971**



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ATHERSTONE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

---oOo---

FOR THE YEAR

1971

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GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION, SOCIAL CONDITIONS  
AND OCCUPATIONS

The Rural District of Atherstone lies in the northern part of the County of Warwick, almost in the centre of England. The northern and eastern boundaries of the District form part of the Leicestershire County Border; the Staffordshire border is on the west. Neighbouring Warwickshire local authorities are Nuneaton Borough and Meriden Rural District. Coventry is situated 15 miles to the south and Leicester and Birmingham are each 20 miles away, to east and west respectively.

The interests of Atherstone have always been agricultural, commercial and industrial. Coal mining and hat manufacturing are the principal industries, whilst there are also brick, pipe and tile works, engineering works, hosiery and footwear factories and other minor industries. There is a need for new industries, and splendid opportunities exist for such development.

Means of communication are good: passing through the town are the main road known as Watling Street, the main London to Crewe railway line and the Coventry canal; a by-pass (A5) to the north of the town was completed in 1963.

Atherstone is of great antiquity; the town was well established in the 9th Century and entered in Domesday Book as Aderstone. Indisputable evidence of Roman association has been discovered from time to time.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

at 31st December, 1971

Chairman :

Councillor S.Chetwynd

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor T.J.V.Bilby

Councillors :

Mrs.E.E.Blower, Mrs.J.W.Corner, J.P., Mrs.E.M.Crook, Mrs.S.M.Daw,  
Mrs.V.W.Ford (Ex-officio), R.A.Allsop, H.Atkins, E.Bond, B.E.M., J.P.,  
C.B.Ford, J.Harding, J.Ison, J.P., R.Mellor, T.H.Newborough,  
F.A.Paintin, J.P.Rutherford, H.S.Sales, J.Sanders, J.P., D.C.Smith,  
B.E.Tunnicliffe, C.H.Vero, C.H.Watkin.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

E. M. HUGHES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

R. A. MARGOSCHIS, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

P. HIBBERT, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

K. N. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I.

B. P. BOYD, M.R.S.H.

Student Public Health Inspectors:

MISS J. R. WOODWARD

(One vacancy)

Clerical Assistant:

MRS. J. CLAMP

Junior Clerk:

MRS. L. I. ASSON.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Atherstone

December, 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Atherstone Rural District Council.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present to you my Report for 1971 on the state of health and environmental circumstances of the Rural District of Atherstone, together with a Report from your Chief Public Health Inspector.

It would appear from the mid-year estimate obtained from the office of the Registrar General, that the population of the Rural District continued to increase. Compared with the figure of the previous year I can report an increase of 1,830 inhabitants to give a total figure of 38,780. The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths, was 409, which suggests that the increase in population is due in part to a migration into the District.

During the year 764 births were notified, which gave a birth rate of 19.7. This was a higher figure than the figures of 16.9 and 16 quoted for Warwickshire, and England and Wales. Of these, 17 unfortunately died before reaching their first birthday, giving an infant mortality rate of 22, which was higher than the national figure of 18. I do not, however, consider this to be statistically important in view of the small numbers involved, but should be compared with the downward trend in the infant mortality rate over the years. All these deaths were due to congenital deformities or other causes which are unavoidable in the present state of medical knowledge.

The total number of deaths amounting to 355 was lower than in 1970, giving a mortality rate which was slightly below the national average. Once again the causes of death were, in the main, similar to those reported in previous reports and there is no significant increase in the incidence of any disease which I wish to draw to the attention of the Council.

The notifications of infectious diseases showed a dramatic drop from 389 in 1970 to 91. This can be attributed to a fall in the notifications of measles from 365 to 53. It is too much to hope that this is due to parents availing themselves of the opportunities which are available to have their children protected against this disease. Children in the second year of life may be immunised against measles either by their family doctor or at one of the County Child Health Clinics. The notifications would suggest that the Rural District remained free of any serious infectious diseases.

The personal health services, which are the responsibility of Warwickshire County Council, continued to provide the usual services. A full report of these appears in the Annual Reports of the County Medical Officer and Principal School Medical Officer.

The remainder of the report is self-explanatory and there is no matter of an adverse nature which I wish to bring to the attention of the Council.

I should like to thank the Chairman, Councillor S.Chetwynd, and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support. Appreciation must also be expressed for the co-operation and assistance received from Mr.Margoschis, Chief Public Health Inspector, members of the Public Health Department, and also colleagues in other departments.

E.M.HUGHES

Medical Officer of Health

# STATISTICS

|                                                                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Area in acres                                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34,574     |
| Population, Census 1951                                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29,635     |
| Population, Census 1961                                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32,577     |
| Intercensal increase in population                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,942      |
| Excess of males over females (at Census)                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 579        |
| Population (mid-year estimate) 1971                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38,780     |
| Number of inhabited houses, 1971 (Apr.1st.1971)                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12,738     |
| Density of population, i.e. number of persons<br>per acre, 1971 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1.12       |
| Number of persons per dwelling, 1971                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3.04       |
| Rateable value of District, 1971 (Domestic)                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £800,264   |
| 1971 (All premises)                                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £1,398,574 |
| Sum represented by one new penny rate, 1971                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £13,450    |

PARISH POPULATION, CENSUS 1961

| <u>Parish</u>       | <u>Acreage</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Ansley ... ..       | 2,930          | 1,260        | 1,202          | 2,462        |
| Atherstone ... ..   | 944            | 2,713        | 2,740          | 5,453        |
| Austrey ... ..      | 2,123          | 154          | 145            | 299          |
| Baddesley Ensor ... | 1,156          | 956          | 868            | 1,824        |
| Baxterley ... ..    | 901            | 212          | 210            | 422          |
| Bentley ... ..      | 1,967          | 84           | 75             | 159          |
| Caldecote ... ..    | 667            | 75           | 62             | 137          |
| Dordon ... ..       | 2,155          | 1,668        | 1,573          | 3,241        |
| Grendon ... ..      | 2,415          | 748          | 712            | 1,460        |
| Hartshill ... ..    | 1,585          | 1,313        | 1,270          | 2,583        |
| *Kingsbury ... ..   | 6,907          | 2,908        | 2,777          | 5,685        |
| Mancetter ... ..    | 1,607          | 1,395        | 1,364          | 2,759        |
| Merevale ... ..     | 890            | 38           | 50             | 88           |
| Newton Regis ... .. | 1,340          | 208          | 194            | 402          |
| Oldbury ... ..      | 611            | 37           | 45             | 82           |
| Polesworth ... ..   | 4,110          | 2,146        | 2,095          | 4,241        |
| Seckington ... ..   | 849            | 35           | 35             | 70           |
| Shuttrington ... .. | 1,417          | 277          | 260            | 537          |
|                     | <hr/>          | <hr/>        | <hr/>          | <hr/>        |
| Totals              | 34,574         | 16,227       | 15,677         | 31,904       |
|                     | =====          | =====        | =====          | =====        |

\* Kingsbury Parish at Census comprised 1,830 dwellings in 8,092 acres. Annexed from Tamworth R.D.C. on 1st April, 1965, were 1,636 dwellings in 6,907 acres. Assessed population stated.

PARISH POPULATIONS  
COMPARISON OF 1951 WITH 1961 CENSUS

| Parish          | Number<br>Increased | Number<br>Decreased |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Ansley          | 375                 | -                   |
| Atherstone      | -                   | 372                 |
| Austrey         | -                   | 53                  |
| Baddesley Ensor | 125                 | -                   |
| Baxterley       | 88                  | -                   |
| Bentley         | -                   | 25                  |
| Caldecote       | 16                  | -                   |
| Dordon          | 408                 | -                   |
| Grendon         | -                   | 131                 |
| Hartshill       | -                   | 159                 |
| Kingsbury       | 1,783               | -                   |
| Mancetter       | 846                 | -                   |
| Merevale        | -                   | 133                 |
| Newton Regis    | -                   | 73                  |
| Oldbury         | -                   | 6                   |
| Polesworth      | 221                 | -                   |
| Seckington      | -                   | 1                   |
| Shuttrington    | 33                  | -                   |
| Totals          | 3,895               | 953                 |

VITAL STATISTICS, 1971

|                              | Male | Female | Total |
|------------------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Live Births ... ..           | 394  | 370    | 764   |
| Legitimate .. ...            | 372  | 357    | 729   |
| Illegitimate ... ..          | 22   | 13     | 35    |
| Birth Rate ... ..            |      |        | 19.7  |
| Comparability Factor ... ..  |      |        | 0.97  |
| Corrected Birth Rate ... ..  |      |        | 19.1  |
| Still Births .. ...          | 1    | 8      | 9     |
| Legitimate .. ...            | 1    | 7      | 8     |
| Illegitimate ... ..          | -    | 1      | 1     |
| Deaths .. ...                | 195  | 160    | 355   |
| Death Rate ... ..            |      |        | 9.2   |
| Correction Factor ... ..     |      |        | 1.24  |
| Corrected Death Rate ... ..  |      |        | 11.4  |
| Infant Death                 |      |        |       |
| (0 weeks to 12 months) ..    | 11   | 6      | 17    |
| Legitimate .. ...            | 11   | 5      | 16    |
| Illegitimate ... ..          | -    | 1      | 1     |
| Infant Mortality Rate ... .. |      |        | 22    |
| Neo-Natal Deaths             |      |        |       |
| (Under 1 month) .. ...       | 3    | 5      | 8     |
| Legitimate .. ...            | 3    | 4      | 7     |
| Illegitimate ... ..          | -    | 1      | 1     |
| Early Neo-Natal Deaths       |      |        |       |
| (Under 1 week) ... ..        | 3    | 3      | 6     |
| Legitimate .. ...            | 3    | 3      | 6     |
| Illegitimate ... ..          | -    | -      | -     |
| Perinatal Mortality Rate     |      |        |       |
| (Stillbirths & Deaths        |      |        |       |
| under 1 week) ... ..         |      |        | 19    |
| Maternal Mortality           |      |        |       |
| (Including abortion) ... ..  |      |        | -     |

NUMBER OF DEATHS FOR THE YEAR 1971

| Cause of Death |                                         | Male | Female |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------|------|--------|
| 1.             | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...  | 1    | -      |
| 2.             | Other Tuberculosis ... ..               | -    | 1      |
| 3.             | Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases  | 1    | 1      |
| 4.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ... ..   | 3    | -      |
| 5.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..      | 3    | 5      |
| 6.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ... ..    | 5    | 4      |
| 7.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...  | 15   | 3      |
| 8.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .. ...       | -    | 8      |
| 9.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. ...       | -    | 2      |
| 10.            | Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ... ..     | 4    | -      |
| 11.            | Leukaemia ... ..                        | -    | 1      |
| 12.            | Other Malignant Neoplasms ... ..        | 8    | 4      |
| 13.            | Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...    | 1    | -      |
| 14.            | Diabetes Mellitus . ... ..              | 2    | 6      |
| 15.            | Other Endocrine, etc. Diseases .. ...   | -    | 2      |
| 16.            | Anaemias ... ..                         | 1    | 1      |
| 17.            | Multiple Sclerosis ... ..               | 1    | -      |
| 18.            | Other Diseases of Nervous System ...    | 1    | 3      |
| 19.            | Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .. ...  | 2    | 2      |
| 20.            | Hypertensive Disease ... ..             | 7    | 4      |
| 21.            | Ischaemic Heart Disease ... ..          | 46   | 27     |
| 22.            | Other Forms of Heart Disease ... ..     | 9    | 6      |
| 23.            | Cerebrovascular Disease ... ..          | 16   | 29     |
| 24.            | Other Diseases of Circulatory System .. | 9    | 15     |
| 25.            | Pneumonia ... ..                        | 8    | 8      |
| 26.            | Bronchitis and Emphysema ... ..         | 16   | 4      |
| 27.            | Asthma ... ..                           | 1    | 1      |
| 28.            | Other Diseases of Respiratory System .. | 4    | 2      |
| 29.            | Peptic Ulcer ... ..                     | 2    | -      |
| 30.            | Appendicitis ... ..                     | 1    | -      |
| 31.            | Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ...   | -    | 1      |
| 32.            | Other Diseases of Digestive System ...  | 3    | 2      |
| 33.            | Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..          | -    | 1      |
| 34.            | Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..          | 2    | -      |
| 35.            | Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System . | 1    | -      |
| 36.            | Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ... | -    | 1      |
| 37.            | Congenital Anomalies .. ...             | 1    | 2      |
| 38.            | Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. .. | 3    | 2      |
| 39.            | Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions     | 6    | 4      |
| 40.            | Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..          | 7    | -      |
| 41.            | All Other Accidents ... ..              | 4    | 8      |
| 42.            | Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ..  | 1    | -      |
|                |                                         | 195  | 160    |
|                |                                         | 355  |        |
|                |                                         | ===  |        |

## BIRTHS

The number of registered live births for 1971 was 764, giving a crude birth rate of 19.7 per 1,000 population. The comparability factor is 0.97, making the corrected birth rate 19.1 per 1,000 population.

The birth rate for England and Wales in 1971 was 16.0 per 1,000 population.

## DEATHS

The number of deaths registered during the year was 355, giving a crude death rate of 9.2 per 1,000 population. The factor for correction is 1.24 and it results in a standardised death rate of 11.4 per 1,000 population.

The 1971 death rate for England and Wales was 11.6 per 1,000 population.

The diseases and conditions giving rise to the majority of the deaths over the last five years are :-

| Cause of Death                               | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 |
|----------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Diseases of the heart and blood vessels.     | 114  | 109  | 106  | 118  | 103  |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage.                        | 44   | 60   | 53   | 55   | 45   |
| Cancer.                                      | 75   | 66   | 68   | 70   | 65   |
| Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Emphysema and Asthma. | 22   | 35   | 37   | 36   | 38   |
| Violence, accidents and suicide.             | 15   | 13   | 22   | 16   | 20   |

## INFANT DEATHS

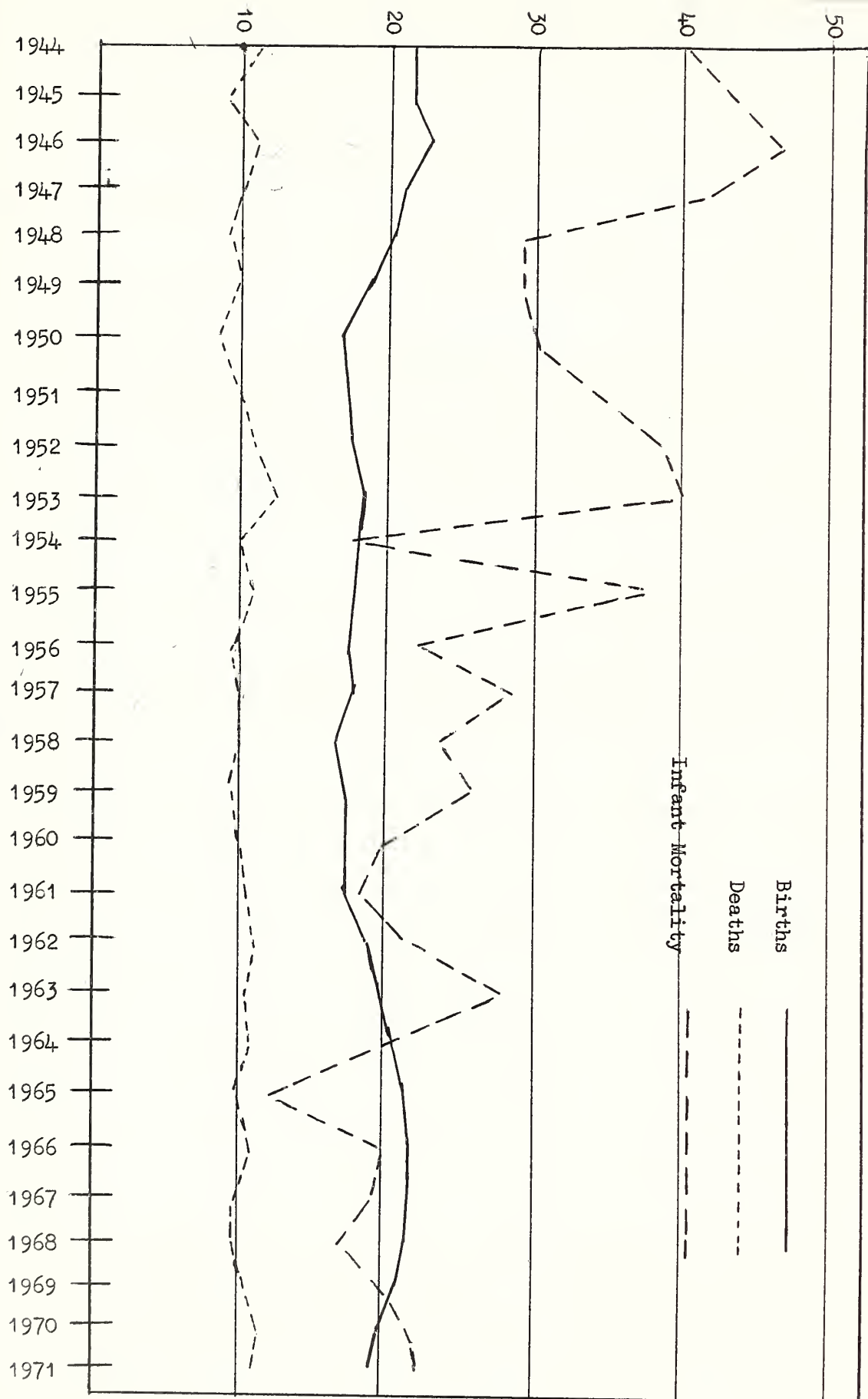
Seventeen deaths of infants under one year of age occurred during 1971, 11 were males and 6 were females.

The infantile mortality rate was 22 per 1,000 related live births. The rate for England and Wales was 18.

| <u>BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND INFANTILE MORTALITY</u><br><u>IN ATHERSTONE</u> |                    |            |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Year                                                                          | Average Five Years |            |                          |
|                                                                               | Birth Rate         | Death Rate | Infantile Mortality Rate |
| 1943 - 1947                                                                   | 20.8               | 10.3       | 44.4                     |
| 1948 - 1952                                                                   | 17.5               | 9.9        | 32.1                     |
| 1953 - 1957                                                                   | 16.7               | 10.1       | 28.2                     |
| 1958 - 1962                                                                   | 15.7               | 10.3       | 21.9                     |
| 1963 - 1967                                                                   | 20.6               | 10.1       | 18.8                     |
| 1968                                                                          | 22.3               | 9.5        | 16.0                     |
| 1969                                                                          | 21.0               | 9.6        | 20.0                     |
| 1970                                                                          | 20.5               | 9.8        | 21.0                     |
| 1971                                                                          | 19.7               | 9.2        | 22.0                     |

ATHERSTONE

GRAPH SHOWING 28 YEARS OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES  
PER 1,000 POPULATION AND INFANT MORTALITY PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS



INQUESTS, 1971

|                                          | Males      | Females    | Total      |
|------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| No. of sudden deaths reported to Coroner | 29<br>(43) | 21<br>(22) | 50<br>(65) |
| No. of Inquests                          | 6<br>(15)  | -<br>(4)   | 6<br>(19)  |
| No. of Post Mortem Examinations          | 32<br>(35) | 18<br>(28) | 50<br>(63) |
| Certified cause of death                 |            |            |            |
| (a) Natural causes                       | 24<br>(30) | 18<br>(18) | 42<br>(48) |
| (b) Misadventure                         | 2<br>(4)   | -<br>(4)   | 2<br>(8)   |
| (c) Suicide                              | 1<br>(1)   | -<br>(-)   | 1<br>(1)   |
| (d) Found drowned                        | -<br>(1)   | -<br>(-)   | -<br>(1)   |
| (e) Accidental                           | 2<br>(7)   | -<br>(-)   | 2<br>(7)   |
| (f) Stillborn                            | -<br>(-)   | -<br>(-)   | -<br>(-)   |
| (g) Murdered                             | -<br>(-)   | -<br>(-)   | -<br>(-)   |
| (h) Industrial                           | 1<br>(-)   | -<br>(-)   | 1<br>(-)   |
| (i) Open Verdict                         | -<br>(-)   | -<br>(-)   | -<br>(-)   |

Figures in brackets show numbers and classifications in 1970

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table on page 15 shows the number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases which have occurred in Atherstone over the last ten years.

The following are the number of cases of infectious diseases notified by Medical Practitioners in the year ended 31st December, 1971.

|                              | Males | Females | Total |
|------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever ... ..         | 5     | 4       | 9     |
| Whooping Cough .. ...        | 6     | 5       | 11    |
| Measles ... ..               | 30    | 23      | 53    |
| Acute Poliomyelitis          |       |         |       |
| Paralytic ... ..             | -     | -       | -     |
| Non-Paralytic ... ..         | -     | -       | -     |
| Diphtheria ... ..            | -     | -       | -     |
| Smallpox .. ...              | -     | -       | -     |
| Meningococcal Infection ...  | 1     | -       | 1     |
| Dysentery .. ...             | 1     | -       | 1     |
| Acute Encephalitis           |       |         |       |
| Infective ... ..             | -     | -       | -     |
| Post Infectious ... ..       | -     | -       | -     |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...    | -     | -       | -     |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..     | -     | -       | -     |
| Acute Pneumonia ... ..       | -     | -       | -     |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... ..     | -     | -       | -     |
| Food Poisoning ... ..        | 1     | -       | 1     |
| Enteric or Typhoid Fever ... | -     | -       | -     |
| Malaria ... ..               | -     | -       | -     |
| Erysipelas ... ..            | -     | -       | -     |
| Infective Jaundice ... ..    | 8     | 7       | 15    |
|                              | —     | —       | —     |
|                              | 52    | 39      | 91    |
|                              | ==    | ==      | ==    |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED 1962 - 1971

| Disease             | 1962 | 1963                      | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 |
|---------------------|------|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever       | 12   | 9                         | 5    | 13   | 16   | 25   | 18   | 19   | 4    | 9    |
| Whooping Cough      | 3    | 18                        | -    | 2    | 1    | 14   | 5    | -    | 6    | 11   |
| Measles             | 45   | 245                       | 36   | 379  | 133  | 338  | 152  | 50   | 365  | 53   |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Paralytic           | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Non-Paralytic       | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Diphtheria          | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Smallpox            | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Meningococcal Inf.  | 1    | -                         | 1    | -    | -    | 1    | 1    | -    | -    | 1    |
| Acute Encephalitis  | 1    | 1                         | 1    | -    | -    | 1    | 1    | 1    | -    | -    |
| Dysentery           | -    | -                         | 28   | -    | 21   | 2    | 1    | 4    | 2    | 1    |
| Opth. Neonatorum    | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Puerperal Pyrexia   | 1    | -                         | 3    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Acute Pneumonia     | 4    | 8                         | 6    | 1    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Paratyphoid Fever   | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Enteric or          | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Typhoid Fever       | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Food Poisoning      | 1    | -                         | 1    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | 7    | -    | 1    |
| Malaria             | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Contracted abroad   | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Indigenous          | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Erysipelae          | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Infective Jaundice  | -    | -                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | 13   | 22   | 12   | 15   |
|                     |      | Not notifiable until 1968 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

TABLE I

| Details                                                                       | Males      |                | Females    |                | Total        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                                                               | Pul-monary | Non Pul-monary | Pul-monary | Non Pul-monary |              |
| (a) Number of cases on Register at beginning of year                          | 59         | 11             | 43         | 18             | 131          |
| (b) Number of cases notified under Regulations of 1952 for first time in year | 1          | -              | 1          | 1              | 3            |
| (c) Number of cases restored to Register                                      | -          | -              | -          | -              | -            |
| (d) Number of cases added to Register otherwise than by formal notification   | -          | -              | -          | -              | -            |
| (e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year                     | 2          | -              | -          | -              | 2            |
| (f) Number of cases remaining on Register at 31st December, 1971              | 58<br>(83) | 11<br>(19)     | 44<br>(54) | 19<br>(18)     | 132<br>(174) |

The figures in brackets show the numbers of tuberculosis cases on the Register 14 years ago, when the population was only 24,630.

SUMMARY OF CASES ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

1952 - 1971

TABLE II

| Year | Cases on Register |           |       | Notifications each Year |           |       | Deaths |           |       |
|------|-------------------|-----------|-------|-------------------------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|-------|
|      | Pulm.             | Non-Pulm. | Total | Pulm.                   | Non-Pulm. | Total | Pulm.  | Non-Pulm. | Total |
| 1952 | 146               | 47        | 193   | 28                      | 12        | 40    | 6      | 2         | 8     |
| 1953 | 160               | 50        | 210   | 24                      | 8         | 32    | 4      | 1         | 5     |
| 1954 | 174               | 49        | 223   | 29                      | 2         | 31    | 3      | -         | 3     |
| 1955 | 158               | 45        | 203   | 18                      | 5         | 23    | 2      | -         | 2     |
| 1956 | 149               | 43        | 192   | 11                      | 3         | 14    | 4      | 1         | 5     |
| 1957 | 132               | 37        | 174   | 10                      | 1         | 11    | 1      | -         | 1     |
| 1958 | 134               | 38        | 172   | 9                       | 4         | 13    | 3      | -         | 3     |
| 1959 | 128               | 28        | 156   | 13                      | 1         | 14    | 2      | -         | 2     |
| 1960 | 119               | 26        | 145   | 11                      | 3         | 14    | 2      | 1         | 3     |
| 1961 | 114               | 25        | 139   | 12                      | -         | 12    | -      | -         | -     |
| 1962 | 104               | 25        | 129   | 9                       | 1         | 10    | 1      | 1         | 2     |
| 1963 | 108               | 25        | 133   | 11                      | 2         | 13    | 3      | -         | 3     |
| 1964 | 104               | 26        | 130   | 5                       | 2         | 7     | 3      | -         | 3     |
| 1965 | 103               | 26        | 129   | 4                       | -         | 4     | 1      | -         | 1     |
| 1966 | 98                | 27        | 125   | 5                       | 2         | 7     | 2      | -         | 2     |
| 1967 | 100               | 27        | 127   | 5                       | -         | 5     | 3      | -         | 3     |
| 1968 | 99                | 28        | 127   | 6                       | 1         | 7     | 1      | -         | 1     |
| 1969 | 100               | 30        | 130   | 5                       | 2         | 7     | 1      | -         | 1     |
| 1970 | 102               | 29        | 131   | 6                       | -         | 6     | 1      | -         | 1     |
| 1971 | 102               | 30        | 132   | 2                       | 1         | 3     | 1      | -         | 1     |

## LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory situated at the Coventry and Warwick Hospital, Coventry, undertakes the bacteriological examination of samples of water, ice cream and food, also in connection with the investigation of infectious diseases; samples for chemical analysis are frequently dealt with by the Coventry City Laboratory.

## THE GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE

The General Practitioners Service is administered by the Warwickshire Executive Council; fifteen medical practitioners have surgeries in the district, and others living outside have extended their activities to cover parts of the district.

There are no general hospital services directly available within the district, but out-patient and in-patient facilities are available at the Nuneaton and Tamworth Hospitals. Cases of infectious diseases are usually admitted to Whitley Hospital, Coventry, and a small percentage of cases requiring special treatment are admitted to Birmingham hospitals. The bed accommodation for Tuberculosis patients is largely provided for at Hertford Hill Sanatorium, near Warwick, but various other Sanatoria within the Birmingham Hospital Region are also used.

The Warwickshire County Council are responsible for the administration of the School Health Service, and for arrangements for Domiciliary Nursing, Vaccination and Immunisation, the care of Mothers and Young Children, the Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care, and the Ambulance Service as laid down in Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946. With the exception of the Ambulance Service, the day by day administration of these services is under the control of the Area Medical Officer, Rye Piece, Bedworth. The Ambulance Depot is at Watling Street, Dordon.

A General Purposes Clinic is situated in Long Street, Atherstone. Infant Welfare and School Clinics are held in and conducted in these premises and sessions are held at which the Speech Therapist, Dentist and Eye Specialist attend.

Child Health Clinics are also held in other parts of the District, particulars of which appear on the following page.

# CLINICS HELD WITHIN THE RURAL DISTRICT

|                                                           |                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Child Health Clinic,<br>Long Street,<br><u>Atherstone</u> | Infant Welfare Clinic   |
| Village Hall,<br><u>Dordon</u>                            | " " "                   |
| The Surgery,<br><u>Hurley</u>                             | " " "                   |
| Health Centre,<br><u>Kingsbury</u>                        | " " "                   |
| Village Hall,<br><u>Newton Regis</u>                      | " " "                   |
| Memorial Hall,<br><u>Polesworth</u>                       | " " "                   |
| Community Centre,<br><u>Baddesley Ensor</u>               | " " "                   |
| Youth Centre,<br><u>Wood End</u>                          | " " "                   |
| Child Health Clinic,<br>Long Street,<br><u>Atherstone</u> | * Mothercraft Classes   |
| Health Centre,<br><u>Kingsbury</u>                        | * " "                   |
| Memorial Hall,<br><u>Polesworth</u>                       | * " "                   |
| Child Health Clinic,<br>Long Street,<br><u>Atherstone</u> | * Speech Therapy        |
| Child Health Clinic,<br>Long Street,<br><u>Atherstone</u> | * Ophthalmic Clinic     |
| Child Health Clinic,<br>Long Street,<br><u>Atherstone</u> | * Orthopaedic Exercises |

\* By Appointment

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Atherstone

December, 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Atherstone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my second Annual Report covering the work of the Public Health Department during 1971.

We are often told that we are a nation of grumblers, and yet, on the other hand, we are told that we do not complain enough about things which break down or go wrong in some way; perhaps there is a subtle difference between a grumble and a complaint; perhaps a grumble becomes a complaint when it is referred to some authority having the necessary legal backing to deal with it.

I imagine that the variety of complaints received by a Public Health Department have to be seen to be believed; some are detailed elsewhere in this report but, over the years, a change has been seen in their nature. Complaints, for instance, about matters directly affecting the individual - such as housing defects - have tended to diminish and a greater proportion are of an environmental character - complaints of noise and odour, for example, which can affect a larger proportion of the population. I think this is a good thing because it indicates progress in our standard of living generally; after all, the modern accepted definition of good health is - 'a condition of physical, social and mental well being, and not merely the absence of ill health'.

However, I feel that people occasionally carry this too far and, perhaps, rely too much upon help from authority. This really appeared to be so in the case of the complaint about "fluff blowing off trees" which turned out to be no more than nature's way of propagation of the species. In a rural district, such as this, we quite frequently see a reluctance of people, previously town dwellers, to accept the ways of the countryside, but we also see a similar reluctance of country dwellers to accept some side effects of industrial expansion.

In no way do I suggest that all complaints are frivolous, in fact much good often comes after investigating complaints which, at first, appear to be of an unusual character, and probably outside the scope of our work. A complaint of explosive noises coming from a house received very careful and discreet enquiries which, eventually, revealed that a gas fired boiler was incorrectly installed; what might have become a very dangerous situation was averted by liaison with the Gas Board.

The case of the 'African Drums' was rather different; it was a call for assistance rather than a complaint. The fur on the covering of two ornamental drums, believed to be of foreign origin, was found to have been eaten away by numerous small grubs. The keeper of natural history at the County Museum, Warwick, provided the necessary identification; the source of the trouble was no more than the larvae of case-bearing clothes moths and not some creature from foreign parts.

The maintenance of a decent standard of housing has always been a concern of the Public Health Department, it is related so closely to the general standard of living, and during the last two decades the standard aimed at has improved dramatically. In the 1940's the main efforts were directed towards providing each dwelling with its own closet; for instance, between the years 1947 and 1953, a total of 361 dwellings were provided with separate accommodation, almost invariably in the yard at the rear, but 492 still had to share a W.C. with one, and sometimes two other houses. Such improvements that were being done were achieved without the aid of Improvement Grants and it was with the introduction of the Standard Grant, in 1959, that progress improved.

In connection with housing, I should like to draw particular attention to the graphs on pages 28 and 29 because I think they clearly indicate the progress over a period of forty years. The provision of new dwellings, in both the private and public sectors, is clearly indicated by the two straight and upward inclined lines, and it is interesting to note that until about 1965 the two were progressing side by side at a constant ratio. However, since 1965, the rate of building privately owned houses has increased whilst the construction of Council houses has remained constant. The immediate increase in 1965 was due to the enlargement of the Rural District, but the increased impetus in private building was, no doubt, due to the release of land for development purposes; this can be seen particularly in the village of Polesworth where the population has been nearly doubled, and similarly in the village of Kingsbury.

Set against this is a line which steadily declines since 1960 and shows the rate of clearance of unfit property; if it were not for two peaks, one in 1967 and the other in 1971, this line would have taken a very definite dip after 1968, and would then have more clearly indicated the change of policy from clearance to improvement. The two peaks referred to were caused by extensive clearance in Polesworth (1967) and, this year, clearance at Dordon and Shuttington, plus a number of individually unfit properties.

-The lines indicating improvements carried out under the Standard Grant and Home Improvement Schemes suggest to me that the former has now done its job; it provided the impetus in 1960 and did not decline until the introduction of the more extensive Home Improvement Scheme in 1969, the impact of which is very clearly shown.

It seems to be a popular opinion that improvements to rented properties tend to lag behind those to property which is owner-occupied; they are certainly at a lower level but the ratio between the two has remained constant over the last ten years. I have little doubt that the Improvement Areas, declared under the provisions of the Housing Act of 1964 have had their effect in maintaining this ratio.

The year has seen no change of staff employed in the Department; each has played his or her part in coping efficiently with a steadily increasing work load, and for their loyal support I wish to record my thanks and appreciation. My thanks go, also, to the Chairman (Councillor S.Chetwynd) and members of the Public Health Committee for their support.

R.A.MARGOSCHIS

Chief Public Health Inspector

## HOUSING

During the year "Time and Place" notices were served in respect of 8 individual unfit houses; ten Demolition and four Closing Orders were made.

The following Table shows the Clearance Areas which were declared in 1971.

| Name of Area           | No. of Houses | No. of Occupiers |
|------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Ansley (No.2) C.A.     | 7             | 17               |
| Chapel End (No.4) C.A. | 6             | 14               |

The Table on the following page is made up from four Quarterly Returns which were sent to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

SLUM CLEARANCE : REPAIR OF HOUSES  
RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1971

| A. <u>HOUSES DEMOLISHED</u><br>In Clearance Areas.                                                                      | Houses<br>Demol-<br>ished  | Displaced<br>during year                                           |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                                                                                                                         |                            | Persons                                                            | Families       |
| 1. Houses unfit for human habitation                                                                                    | 37                         | 40                                                                 | 14             |
| 2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.                                                                   | -                          | -                                                                  | -              |
| 3. Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957.                                                       | -                          | -                                                                  | -              |
| Not in Clearance Areas.                                                                                                 |                            |                                                                    |                |
| 4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sect.17(1) H.A.1957.                                               | 24                         | 10                                                                 | 7              |
| 5. Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.                                       | -                          | -                                                                  | -              |
| 6. Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts.                                      | -                          | -                                                                  | -              |
| 7. Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders.                                                                           | -                          | -                                                                  | -              |
| B. <u>UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED</u>                                                                                           | <u>Number</u>              |                                                                    |                |
| 8. Under Secs.16(4), 17(1) & 35(1) Housing Act, 1957.                                                                   | -                          | 5                                                                  | 2              |
| 9. Under Secs. 17(3) & 26 Housing Act, 1957.                                                                            | -                          | -                                                                  | -              |
| 10. Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957.                                                      | -                          | -                                                                  | -              |
| C. <u>UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED</u>                                               |                            | <u>By Owner</u>                                                    | <u>By L.A.</u> |
| 11. After informal action by Local Authority                                                                            |                            | 9                                                                  | -              |
| 12. After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts.<br>(b) Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act, 1957.                         |                            | 12                                                                 | -              |
| 13. Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957.                                                                                 |                            | 1                                                                  | -              |
| 14. Under Section 27 Housing Act, 1957.                                                                                 |                            | -                                                                  | -              |
| D. <u>UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE</u>                                                                                 | <u>Number<br/>of Hses.</u> | <u>Number of<br/>Separate<br/>Dwellings<br/>in Col.(1)<br/>(2)</u> |                |
| Position at end of year                                                                                                 | (1)                        |                                                                    |                |
| 15. Retained for temporary accommodation,<br>(a) under Section 48.<br>(b) under Section 17(2).<br>(c) under Section 46. | -<br>-<br>-                |                                                                    | -<br>-<br>-    |
| 16. Licensed for temporary occupation under Sec.<br>34 or 53.                                                           | -                          |                                                                    | -              |

### DISPLACEMENT REGISTER

For families re-housed from condemned dwellings, a Displacement Register has been kept since November, 1956. This shows that for the eleven years 1956 to 1966 a total of 620 families were re-housed; figures for the last five years are :-

|                       |            |           |            |            |       |     |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------|-----|
| 1967 - 66;            | 1968 - 36; | 1969 - 6; | 1970 - 14; | 1971 - 23; | Total | 145 |
| Total - 1956 to 1971. |            |           |            |            |       | 765 |

At the 31st March, 1972, there were 3,820 completed Council-owned houses, bungalows and flats, and a further 65 were under construction. The Council dwellings are in the following Parishes :-

Atherstone 1,142; Ansley 198; Austrey 47; Baddesley Ensor 280; Baxterley 24; Dordon 155; Grendon 40; Hartshill 235; Kingsbury 553; Mancetter 435; Newton Regis 52; Polesworth 601, and Shuttington 58.

There are no Council-owned houses in the very rural Parishes of Bentley, Caldecote, Merevale, Oldbury and Seckington.

### CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

There have been no applications for Certificates of Disrepair, under the Rent Act, 1957, during the past five years.

# HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACTS, 1959, 1961, 1964 & 1969

The administration of both Standard and Improvement Grants has been the responsibility of the Public Health Department since August, 1969. The following table shows the number of applications received for Standard and Discretionary Improvement Grants in the past ten years.

| Year | No. of Applications | No. Granted |               | Refused   |           | Withdrawn |           | No. of Houses Owner-Occupied |           | No. of Tenanted Houses |           |
|------|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
|      |                     | Standard    | Discretionary |           |           |           |           |                              |           |                        |           |
| 1962 | 112                 | 108         | 4             | -         |           | -         |           | 56                           |           | 56                     |           |
| 1963 | 120                 | 111         | 8             | 1         |           | -         |           | 65                           |           | 55                     |           |
| 1964 | 88                  | 86          | -             | 1         |           | 1         |           | 69                           |           | 19                     |           |
| 1965 | 125                 | 120         | 2             | 1         |           | 2         |           | 67                           |           | 58                     |           |
| 1966 | 114                 | 109         | 2             | 2         |           | 1         |           | 63                           |           | 51                     |           |
| 1967 | 91                  | 86          | 1             | 1         |           | 4         |           | 61                           |           | 30                     |           |
| 1968 | 147                 | 141         | -             | 4         |           | 2         |           | 75                           |           | 72                     |           |
|      |                     |             |               | <u>S.</u> | <u>D.</u> | <u>S.</u> | <u>D.</u> | <u>S.</u>                    | <u>D.</u> | <u>S.</u>              | <u>D.</u> |
| 1969 | 144                 | 135         | 5             | -         | -         | 4         | -         | 68                           | 4         | 71                     | 1         |
| 1970 | 146                 | 96          | 50            | 1         | -         | 5         | 5         | 50                           | 32        | 46                     | 18        |
| 1971 | 196                 | 68          | 123           | 1         | -         | 1         | 3         | 35                           | 81        | 35                     | 45        |

The number of dwellings improved during the year with Grant aid was as follows :-

Standard Grants - 86 (107), of which 11(32) had "excess" payments; 49 of the houses were owner-occupied and 37 were tenanted. The total sum paid was £13,098.87 (£17,963. 4. Od.), being an average of £152.31 (£166. 18. 10d.) per house.

Discretionary Improvement Grants - Improvements were completed, during the year, at 50 (12) properties, 38 of which were owner-occupied and 12 tenanted. The total grant aid paid in respect of these properties was £33,851.70 (£7,808. 8. 4d.), being an average of £677.03 (£650. 9. Od.) per property. The maximum grant of £1,000.00 was paid in respect of ten properties.

The bracketed figures refer to 1970.

## General

The graphs, which are to be found on pages 28 and 29, indicate the trend in housing over the past forty years. Figure 1 shows the two periods of high activity in slum clearance, and the gradual decline over the past decade; the gradual increase in habitable dwellings is shown by the broken lines.

Figure 2 covers only the last decade, during the decline of slum clearance, and shows the changed policy of house improvement; the lines clearly show how, during the past three years, Improvement Grants have taken over from Standard Grants; the relationship of grants made to private and tenanted properties is also shown.

=====

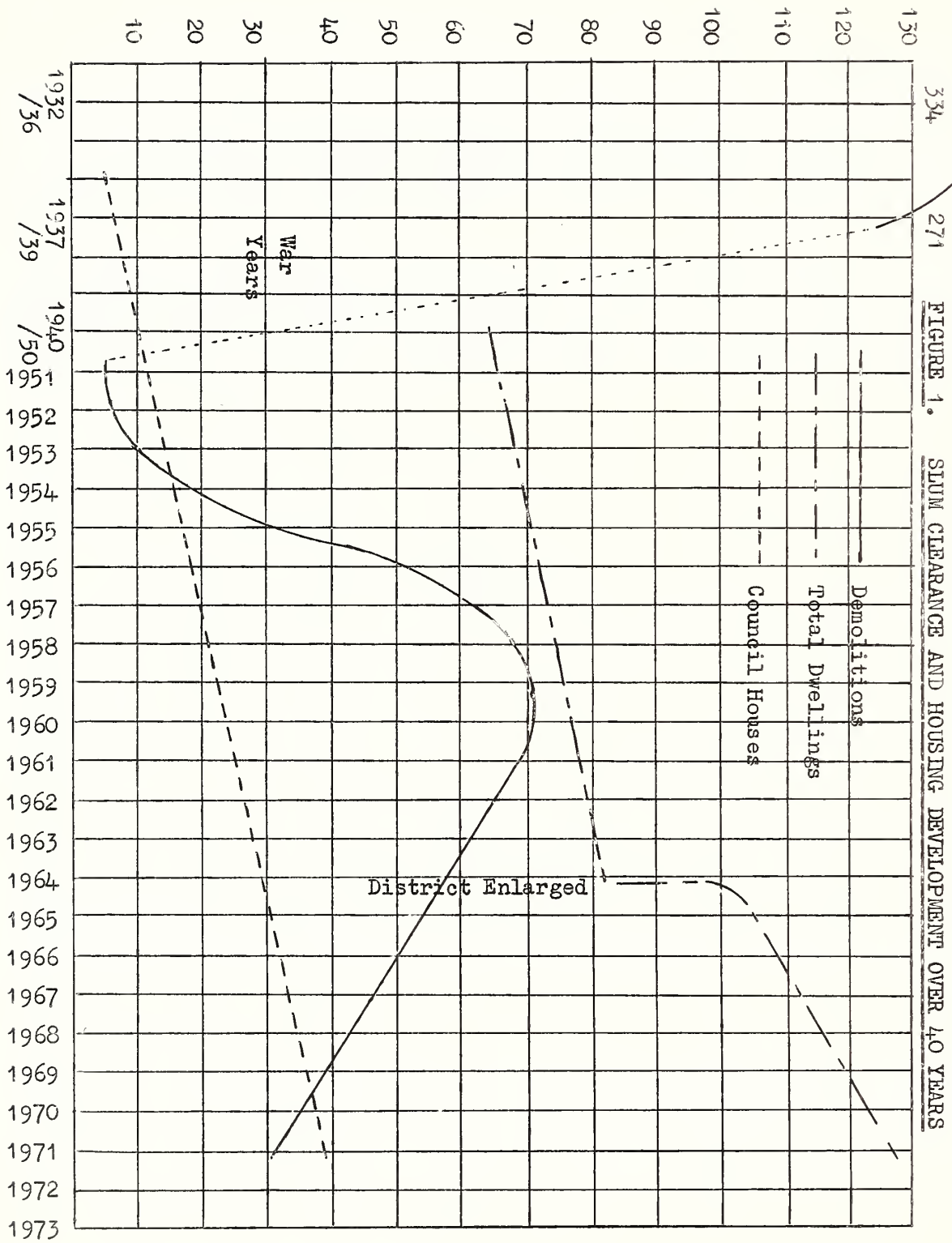
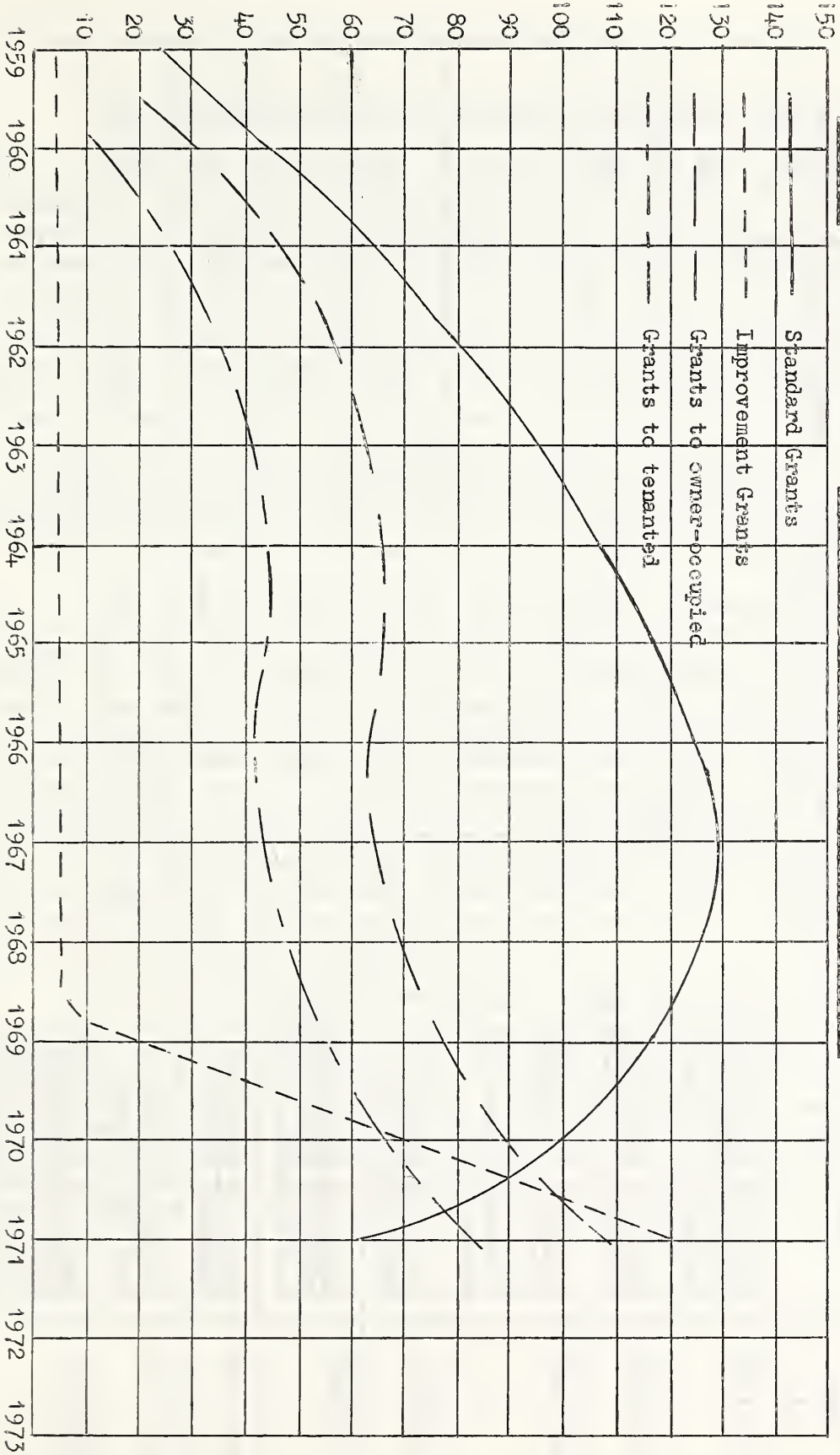


FIGURE 2.

HOME IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPROVED SINCE 1959



| Declaration Date<br>(1) | Name of Area<br>(2)                                                                                                                 | No. of dwellings in Area<br>(3) | No. of owner-occupied dwellings<br>(4) | No. of tenanted dwellings<br>(5) | No. of dwellings lacking one or more of 'standard amenities'<br>Owner/occupied<br>(6) | Tenanted<br>(7) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 12/4/1965               | Parish of Dordon (No.1)<br>New Street and parts<br>Watling St., & Long St.                                                          | 199                             | 134                                    | 65                               | 61                                                                                    | 60              |
| 16/1/1967               | Parish of Atherstone<br>Ambien Rd., & Stanley Rd.                                                                                   | 55                              | 35                                     | 20                               | 20                                                                                    | 14              |
| 22/5/1967               | Parish of Polesworth<br>Grendon Road (No.1)<br>Nethersole Street and<br>Station Road                                                | 18<br>27                        | 10<br>22                               | 8<br>5                           | -<br>6                                                                                | 8<br>5          |
| 22/5/1967               | Parish of Hartshill<br>Chapel End (No.1)                                                                                            | 263                             | 213                                    | 50                               | 35                                                                                    | 41              |
| 4/12/1967               | Parish of Atherstone<br>Erdington Road, Richmond<br>Road & Bachelors Bench                                                          | 106                             | 44                                     | 62                               | 25                                                                                    | 57              |
| 15/1/1968               | Parish of Kingsbury<br>Kingsbury (No.1)                                                                                             | 134                             | 86                                     | 48                               | 9                                                                                     | 31              |
| 20/1/1969               | Parish of Kingsbury<br>Wood End Village                                                                                             | 247                             | 144<br>vac. 5                          | 98                               | 65                                                                                    | 35              |
| 23/2/1970               | Parish of Atherstone<br>South (No.1) General<br>Bounded by South St.,<br>Coleshill Road, the<br>railway line and<br>Fisher's Style. | 216                             | 117                                    | 99                               | 37                                                                                    | 53              |
| Totals                  |                                                                                                                                     | 1,265                           | 810                                    | 455                              | 258                                                                                   | 304             |

## THE ATHERSTONE (SOUTH No.1) GENERAL IMPROVEMENT AREA

Following the success of the public meetings which were held at the end of 1970, no time was lost in calling together the Steering Committee. The purpose of this committee is to provide a link between the Council and the residents; it comprises the elected representatives for the parish of Atherstone and the seven street representatives elected at the public meetings, and is chaired by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee. Following the formation of this group the procedure has been for recommendations of the Working Party, which is comprised of all the officers concerned, to be considered by the Steering Committee before being put to the Public Health Committee and the Council for confirmation. It has often been necessary for the Street Representatives to consult the residents they represent before a final recommendation could be put forward; this, in turn, has required further meetings of the Steering Committee and Working Party before the matter can go to the Public Health Committee. The procedure appears cumbersome and 'long winded' but it has worked.

It soon became obvious that the suggested provision of rear access roads to the even numbered sides of Stafford Street and Owen Street was not going to meet with general approval and the same fate befell the proposed central pathway between Stafford Street and Grove Road. The central pathway was deleted from the plan and the Working Party started to consider other possibilities for the provision of car parking and garaging areas; this became even more important when the proposal to use land adjoining the Salvation Army Hall for the purpose failed because the owners did not wish to participate in the scheme. Later in the year negotiations were commenced for the purchase, by the Council, of Nos. 53 and 55 Grove Road; these two houses would be difficult to improve satisfactorily and their demolition would open up sufficient land to provide good garaging facilities for the Meadow Street and Grove Road properties.

A lot of consideration was given to improving the street system and the recommendation, which was being followed up at the end of the year, was for the pedestrianisation of Terrace Road and the portion of Stafford Street between its junctions with Stratton Street and South Street, and the top end of Stratton Street. The Terrace Road section of this project will, of necessity, have to wait until the proposed new link road between Coleshill Road and Owen Street is complete. However, it is hoped that early progress can be made with the Stafford Street - Stratton Street part of this proposed environmental improvement.

Although much consideration was given to other street improvements, which included tree or shrub planting and the provision of parking bays by re-aligning the pavement, little progress was made in this direction. Linked with this was the idea of providing external storm porches which would be particularly helpful to the properties which abut the pavement in Grove Road and Stafford Street. The feasibility of this depended to a great degree on the position of the underground services and so trial holes were taken out to determine the precise location of them. It was a disappointment to find that, except in a small stretch of Stafford Street, all the services were close to the house walls and enquiries of the several Undertakings confirmed that they would have objections to structures being erected over their mains. The matter is still receiving consideration.

At the public meeting the owner of Grove Cottage had indicated his willingness to negotiate for the Council to purchase a piece of his land, at present used as an orchard, to be developed as a small park and amenity area; contracts have been exchanged.

In an attempt to obtain a satisfactory and pleasing colour scheme throughout the area enquiries were made of the various local shops supplying decorating materials to see if some concession could be obtained. Eventually a local firm of paint manufacturers produced a colour scheme, which was accepted by the Working Party, and agreed to supply paint at concession rate providing the owner followed the colour scheme. The owners of all property in the General Improvement Area were contacted and asked to comply when next re-decorating their property; the scheme was welcomed and has met with some success but it will be some time before the full impact can be seen.

By the end of the year a considerable amount of 'planning' had been done towards environmental improvements but none could actually be seen. Alongside this the other aspect, in which the Public Health Department is also deeply involved, was forging ahead - namely, the improvement of the dwellings from an amenity point of view. There is, I think, something to be said for this order of progress; if it was the other way around the Council might find criticism in the fact that money was being spent on the streets while people still had to live without bathrooms. The work done by officers of this department in giving advice regarding Improvement Grants was already beginning to pay dividends. The Council purchased three terrace type houses in Stafford Street and plans and specifications for improvement of two of them - the third was demolished - were prepared within the department so that, by the end of the year, we were looking forward to being able to use this property as Showhouses with which to support the Council's policy of encouraging Home Improvement in general. Applications were dealt with in respect of 20 properties within the Area.

## CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1969

At the end of the year we were aware of 50 residential caravans on 7 licensed sites - 4 of 1; 1 of 5; 1 of 10; and one (Alvecote) of 31 caravans.

### WATER SUPPLIES

The North East Warwickshire Water Board, which was established in 1960, supplies water in 13 of our 18 Parishes; the South Staffordshire Water Company is the Statutory Undertaker for the Parishes of Austrey, Newton Regis, Seckington and Shuttington, whilst the Birmingham Corporation supplies the whole of the Parish of Kingsbury. Water mains are extremely well distributed throughout all the Parishes; less than 100 people have to rely on other means of water supply.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are regularly carried out by the respective Water Undertakers and through this Department. All samples taken during the year proved satisfactory.

Mains waters supplied by the South Staffordshire Water Company showed total hardness averaging 175 parts per million, of which around one-quarter was generally temporary hardness.

Five samples, including two repeat samples, of well waters serving three isolated farms and cottages were submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for bacteriological examination. Where these samples showed gross pollution the occupiers were advised to boil the water before use for drinking purposes; mains water supplies are not economically available, the properties being so isolated. At one house a small chlorination system has been installed and one farm, where water from a well was chlorinated by a private system, has now been connected to a mains supply.

### SEWERAGE, SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND NIGHT SOIL

The district is very well served by various main sewerage systems, details of which appeared in the report for 1969; they have not materially altered since then.

Towards the end of the year a survey was carried out to determine the number of properties that were not connected to main drainage; it revealed a figure of 387 which is considerably less than the approximate figure of 750 given in my report for last year. Of these, 121 are farms and 266 are domestic premises. The domestic premises are served by 45 cesspools and 144 septic tanks. From these figures, 55 premises have been omitted (45 at Hartshill and 10 at Edge Hill, Wood End) because a scheme is in hand to provide main sewerage.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of cesspools but the matter is at present under consideration. A number of contractors are available to carry out the work and provide a satisfactory service.

Rather less than 200 houses still have only pail closets which are emptied weekly by a special vehicle operated by the department; it will be many years before these closets completely disappear but they are gradually being replaced and the Home Improvement Scheme is having its effect.

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# REFUSE COLLECTION VEHICLES

The following table shows the types and ages of vehicles in the fleet, or on order, at 1st January, 1971.

| No.                    | Manufacturer            | Type                             | Comm-<br>issioned | Age at<br>1. 1. 71. |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Refuse Vehicles</u> |                         |                                  |                   |                     |
| 1.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Fore & Aft Tipper 18             | 1961              | 10                  |
| 2.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Fore & Aft Tipper 18             | 1962              | 9                   |
| * 3.                   | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Fore & Aft Tipper 18             | 1962              | 9                   |
| 4.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Pakamatic 35                     | 1964              | 7                   |
| 5.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Pakamatic 35                     | 1965              | 6                   |
| 6.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Pakamatic 20                     | 1966              | 5                   |
| 7.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Pakamatic 35                     | 1971              | 0                   |
| 8.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Fore & Aft Tipper 18             | 1971              | 0                   |
| 9.                     | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Revopak 18/130                   | Delivery 1972     |                     |
| 10.                    | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Revopak 18/130                   | Delivery 1973     |                     |
| <u>Other Vehicles</u>  |                         |                                  |                   |                     |
| 11.                    | Karrier Motors          | Night Soil Tank                  | 1956              | 15                  |
| / 12.                  | Bedford                 | 10 cwt.Van                       | 1965              | 6                   |
| 13.                    | Morris                  | 5 cwt.Van                        | 1967              | 4                   |
| 14.                    | Commer                  | 22 cwt. Pick-up                  | 1971              | 0                   |
| 15.                    | Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd. | Freightloader<br>(Multi-purpose) | Delivery 1972     |                     |

\* Taken out of commission March 1971 and retained for spare parts.

/ 'Written-off' following road accident, replaced by Commer (No.14).

The last column of the table on page 35 clearly indicates the age of the six vehicles in regular use for refuse collection, and the fact that there had been a five year gap in replacement; ages of the vehicles ranged from 5 to 10 years. One of the Fore and Aft Tippers was in use for only three days a week: a spare vehicle was, therefore, available on only two days a week and, with the frequency of breakdowns only to be expected with vehicles of such an age, it often became difficult to maintain the service; the situation improved after September, when the second new vehicle was commissioned. A further two vehicles were put on order, one for delivery in 1972 and the other in 1973, some re-organisation of the collection routes is proposed in connection with these new vehicles and the bin liner system.

The Bedford van, which had to be 'written-off', was replaced by a much more useful pick-up truck and the Rodent Operative took over the smaller 5 cwt. Morris van.

#### HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

In 1967, each man employed on the refuse collection service was dealing with 628 domestic premises, but by 1971 the figure had fallen to 571; the number of men employed had increased, during those five years, from 18 to 22 but, at the same time, the premises to be dealt with had risen from 11,299 to 12,568. The situation was getting worse as the service neared saturation point; under good working conditions the men were just able to maintain a weekly collection, but the slightest upset, in the way of breakdowns, reduction in manpower or inclement weather, resulted in difficulties and delays which, if they became prolonged, made it extremely difficult to regain the regularity required and desired. As well as an increase in refuse caused by new properties in an expanding district, the situation is aggravated by an ever expanding bulk due to modern packaging and a decrease in the number of open fires upon which much paper waste was once burnt. Some 150 tons of refuse is collected every week.

It was obvious that some action was necessary. Two alternatives were considered: the introduction of a new route, thus increasing the number from six to seven, requiring the purchase of an extra vehicle and providing it with a crew; or the introduction of a new system to increase productivity. This latter course could be attained by the use of bin liners, the main advantage of which is to reduce the time necessary to empty each bin by removing the necessity of a second journey to the house to return the empty bin: but the system has many other advantages, not the least of which is the added cleanliness.

Early in the year a five week test, using plastic bin liners fitted into existing dust bins, was run on one-hundred houses selected to include some with and some without solid fuel appliances. The indications were that the system could be successful but that, most likely, a certain percentage of bins would always have to be brought to the kerbside. By mid-year the system had been introduced on one complete route of some 3,000 properties, covering Ansley, Hartshill and Mancetter. Without doubt there were difficulties, both from the point of view of the householders and the collectors but, with experience, each learned to use the system to mutual satisfaction. It was gratifying to find that the number of bins having to be brought to the kerbside gradually reduced to a percentage below that originally envisaged, but it also became quite clear that regular collection was essential; once the interval of collection goes above eight or nine days the number having to be 'brought out' goes up drastically. Following the success of this pilot scheme the Council decided to extend the system to cover the whole of the Rural District; it was being introduced on the Atherstone route at the end of the year.

The year also saw a change in the type of dust bin being supplied by the Council under the Hire Scheme which was introduced in 1949; bins of plastic instead of steel are now purchased for this purpose. Rather less than a thousand bins a year have been required for replacement and new installations - 902 in 1971 and 930 in 1970. There is likely to be a slight initial increase as defective bins are replaced to facilitate the use of plastic liners but, at the same time, bins should last much longer because they will not have to suffer the rigours of being emptied in the old way; it is expected, therefore, that there will be a saving on the cost of dust bins. About 56% of properties hire bins at 37½p per annum.

Several amendments were made to the Incentive Bonus Scheme which had remained virtually unaltered since its inception in 1955; the alterations were designed principally to deal with the changed circumstances in handling bin liners and to decimalise the bonus rates but, at the same time, they brought the bonus earning capacity of the employees more in line with other Council employees. The manual employees work a five day week of 40 hours with the advantage of Superannuation and Sickness Benefit Schemes; two weeks of paid holiday with three extra days for ten years of service.

The table on page 40 shows collection routes; the number of premises on each route from which refuse or night-soil is collected; the number of times each was cleared in 1971; and the number of employees serving each route.

With the modern mechanically compacting vehicles it is difficult for large discards, such as furniture, etc., to be handled by the normal collection service and so special collections are made upon request to the Public Health Department; no charge is normally made. During the year 281 such collections were made (200 in 1970): in fact, they have more than doubled since 1969.

In the 1971-72 financial year the cost of the Sickness Benefit Scheme was £896.83 (£579.71 in 1970). Since the introduction of the Bonus Scheme 16 years ago, employees have generally been absent only when genuinely ill: the considerable increase in cost this year was due mainly to injury rather than sickness and most of it as a result of a motor accident involving the Rodent Operative; the vehicle was a 'write-off' but our driver not to blame.

There was no change in the workmen employed and they overcame a number of difficulties to maintain a generally satisfactory service during the year. It is arduous and dirty work but the men, generally, do their utmost to provide the best possible service and I am very conscious of those efforts.

### LITTER BINS

The District was equipped with litter bins in 1960 and there are now some 280. They were emptied 41 times, on average, during the year by the refuse collectors. A bonus of 1½d. per litter bin was paid until the amended Bonus Scheme became operative, since then this bonus has been included in the normal bonus.

### HOUSE REFUSE DISPOSAL

No materials are salvaged and all refuse collected during the year - some 7,500 tons - was deposited at the Council's refuse tips at Oldbury Lane, Oldbury and Stoneleigh Quarry Farm, Mancetter.

The tip at Oldbury Lane is in an old railway cutting and was purchased from British Rail in 1967; tipping commenced there in 1969 but was suspended in March 1971 when tipping space became available at Mancetter. This course was followed because the land at Stoneleigh Quarry Farm is held on lease only, its capacity will allow for some three to four years tipping and when complete will have reclaimed approximately eight acres for agricultural purposes; there is no urgency for the completion of the Oldbury Lane tip where there is still about one year's space remaining.

The Stoneleigh Quarry Farm site comprises two small quarries and a small area of low lying land adjoining them; preparation of the site presented some formidable problems because each quarry was filled with water. It is fortunate that the Coventry Canal runs alongside the site and provided a means for discharging the water. The larger quarry is being filled first and it was estimated that some three million gallons of water was pumped out; the process took nearly three weeks because the steep sides made it difficult to get the pump near enough to the surface of the water as it went down, and in the end it became necessary to hire a crane on which to suspend the pump.

Accepted methods of controlled tipping are employed, the refuse being handled mechanically. Covering material has been in fairly good supply at the quarry now being filled but, as good covering material is difficult to come by, any contractor wishing to dispose of such is allowed to do so free of charge; a considerable quantity of soil has now been stock-piled on the finished sections at Oldbury Lane and will be valuable when tipping is resumed there.

A Bristol 'Taurus' digger/loader is used by the one full time employee who deals with refuse disposal; an old Bristol 'Duplex' tractor is kept as standby but its life is now nearly at an end, even as a standby.

A small amount of material other than house refuse and covering is disposed of and charged at 30p to £1 per load, according to vehicle size.

### CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

Under the Civic Amenities Act the Council is required to provide facilities, at static points, for householders to dispose of rubbish not handled by the refuse collection service; at present, the only facility offered is at the Council's refuse tip which is conveniently situated to only a very small proportion of the population. Following a report on the subject the Council decided to provide dumps at suitable locations throughout the Rural District; for this purpose a special multi-purpose vehicle is now on order to handle 8 cubic-yard containers which are to serve as disposal points.

The same legislation also provides for the removal and disposal, by the Council, of certain abandoned motor vehicles after affixing a notice stating a prescribed period, after which the vehicle will be removed. During the year 67 (89 in 1970) such vehicles were removed by a Contractor at no cost to the Council. However, it was becoming increasingly difficult to get a contractor to do the work; the problem should be solved with the arrival of the above-mentioned vehicle which will be capable of handling abandoned cars and vans.

| Col. 1.                                                                                         | Col. 2.                  | Col. 3.                                 | Col. 4.             | Col. 5.                                       | Col. 6.                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Routes                                                                                          | No. of Premises on Route | No. of Premises cleared in year         | No. of Loads to Tip | Av. No. of times all Premises cleared in 1971 | No. of Refuse Collection Employees (incl. Driver-Loader) |
| Atherstone, part Grendon, Baddesley Ensor and Merevale.                                         | 3,120<br>(3,017)         | 111,432<br>(124,232)                    | 548<br>(570)        | 35<br>(40)                                    | 4<br>(4)                                                 |
| Polesworth, part Dordon, part Warton.                                                           | 2,200<br>(2,073)         | 107,447<br>(99,633)                     | 498<br>(472)        | 46<br>(42)                                    | 3<br>4 - 3 April to end year)                            |
| Hartshill, Ansley, Oldbury, Ridge Lane, Birchley Heath, Mancetter, and part Atherstone.         | 3,159<br>(2,950)         | 129,528<br>(138,601)                    | 776<br>(810)        | 41<br>(46)                                    | 4<br>(4)                                                 |
| Caldecote, part Warton, part Polesworth, Austrey, Newton Regis, Shuttlington & Seckington.      | 1,302<br>(1,274)         | 58,222<br>(62,432)                      | 387<br>(424)        | 37<br>(46)                                    | 3<br>(3)<br>(4 days each week)                           |
| Kingsbury, Hurley, Wood End, Baxterley, Bentley and part Baddesley Ensor.                       | 2,733<br>(2,804)         | 110,466<br>(121,940)                    | 602<br>(662)        | 40<br>(44)                                    | 4<br>(4)                                                 |
| Part Dordon, Birchmoor, Freasley, part Grendon, and scattered in Bentley, Baxterley and Hurley. | 1,410<br>(1,257)         | 75,187<br>(46,052<br>April to end year) | 432<br>(252)        | 45<br>(34)                                    | 3<br>(3)                                                 |
| Whole District                                                                                  | 13,924<br>(13,375)       | 592,282<br>(592,890)                    | 3,243<br>(3,190)    | 40 $\frac{2}{3}$<br>(42)                      | -                                                        |
| Night-Soil                                                                                      | 191<br>(191)             | 10,123<br>(9,986)                       | -                   | 52<br>(52)                                    | 2<br>(2)<br>(1 day each week)                            |

Figures in brackets refer to 1970.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

A number of infringements of the various Food Hygiene Regulations were found during routine inspections of food premises within the district; it was not found necessary to institute any legal proceedings because an approach to the person concerned resulted in the necessary action being taken. There are some 330 shops, mobiles and market stalls from which food is sold, and the officers of the department have noted a steady improvement in the general standard of hygiene in the shops.

The ten complaints received, regarding food, included mouldy food; insects in canned foods; a drawing pin in chocolate; an iced lolly contaminated by brine from a defective refrigerator and sediment in sterilised milk. All these complaints were followed to a satisfactory conclusion.

Other foodstuffs inspected and condemned in food shops during the year were :-

108 tins vegetable, milk, fruit, fish  
and soup.  
19 lbs. tinned meat.  
6 lbs. cooked meat.  
152 lbs. frozen fish.  
122 lbs. lard (tainted).  
16 lbs. bacon.  
7 lbs. sausage.  
54 pkts. flour.

### MILK SUPPLIES

Since the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, came into force in 1961, the Warwickshire County Council as Food and Drugs Authority, has been responsible for the issuing of Dealers' Licences. As Local Sanitary Authority we have certain public health responsibilities in connection with milk supplies.

The County Health Inspector informs me that during 1971, 11 samples of milk were taken for biological examination from producers in our Area; all gave negative results for tubercle bacille. Also 105 samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted to Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests - all were satisfactory. 68 samples of Sterilised Milk were found to satisfy the Turbidity Test.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Three slaughterhouses were licensed in the year 1971. One is situate in the central area, one in the southern and one in the western part of the District.

100% meat inspection has taken place in Atherstone since "slaughtering freedom day" in 1954; this is in accordance with the Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966, which were designed to bring about the full inspection of all home killed meat before it leaves a slaughterhouse. Present hours of slaughter enable the bulk of meat inspection to be done in office hours; overtime, for which time in lieu is allowed, has to be worked during Bank Holiday periods.

The slaughterhouses are kept in a very clean and satisfactory condition.

| Slaughterhouses | Cows     | Cattle<br>excl.<br>Cows | Calves   | Pigs         | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs |
|-----------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|--------------|-----------------------|
| No.1 Central    | 1<br>(-) | 419<br>(410)            | 2<br>(6) | 688<br>(710) | 1,221<br>(1,315)      |
| No.1 South      | -<br>(-) | 3<br>(46)               | -<br>(-) | 21<br>(52)   | 5<br>(204)            |
| No.1 West       | -<br>(-) | 3<br>(1)                | -<br>(-) | 3<br>(-)     | 11<br>(1)             |
| Totals          | 1<br>(-) | 425<br>(457)            | 2<br>(6) | 712<br>(762) | 1,237<br>(1,520)      |

Figures in brackets refer to 1970.

# MEAT INSPECTION

The following table shows the number of food animals slaughtered and inspected during 1971. Also the numbers of these affected with diseases which necessitated condemnation of carcasses or parts of carcasses and organs and the percentage diseased. The figures in brackets apply to the year 1970.

| Details                                                                                | Cows          | Cattle<br>excl.<br>Cows | Calves           | Pigs           | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Number killed<br>(all inspected)                                                       | 1<br>(-)      | 425<br>(457)            | 2<br>(6)         | 712<br>(762)   | 1,237<br>(1,520)      |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT<br/>TUBERCULOSIS.</u><br>Whole carcasses<br>condemned.          | -<br>(-)      | -<br>(-)                | -<br>(-)         | -<br>(-)       | -<br>(-)              |
| Carcasses of which<br>some part or organ<br>was condemned.                             | 1<br>(-)      | 61<br>(86)              | 1<br>(1)         | 53<br>(58)     | 80<br>(61)            |
| Percentage affected<br>with diseases other<br>than tuberculosis.                       | 100.00<br>(-) | 14.35<br>(18.82)        | 50.00<br>(16.66) | 7.44<br>(7.61) | 6.46<br>(4.01)        |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS</u><br>Whole carcasses<br>condemned.                                   | -<br>(-)      | -<br>(-)                | -<br>(-)         | -<br>(-)       | -<br>(-)              |
| Carcasses of which<br>some part or organ<br>was condemned.                             | -<br>(-)      | -<br>(-)                | -<br>(-)         | 6<br>(1)       | -<br>(-)              |
| Percentage of<br>number inspected<br>affected with<br>tuberculosis.                    | -             | -                       | -                | 0.84<br>(0.13) | -                     |
| <u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS</u><br>Carcasses of which<br>some part or organ<br>was condemned. | -<br>(-)      | 4<br>(5)                | -<br>(-)         | -<br>(-)       | -<br>(-)              |
| Carcasses submitted<br>to treatment by<br>refrigeration.                               | -<br>(-)      | 4<br>(5)                | -<br>(-)         | -<br>(-)       | -<br>(-)              |

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the percentages of cows and other bovines found to be affected with tuberculosis over the last 18 years.

| Year | Cows<br>Percentage Affected | Heifers and Steers<br>Percentage Affected |
|------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1954 | 41.5                        | 19.9                                      |
| 1955 | 23.8                        | 10.5                                      |
| 1956 | 28.1                        | 8.9                                       |
| 1957 | 13.2                        | 6.7                                       |
| 1958 | 17.8                        | 6.9                                       |
| 1959 | 2.9                         | 4.0                                       |
| 1960 | -                           | 1.2                                       |
| 1961 | -                           | 0.01                                      |
| 1962 | -                           | 0.04                                      |
| 1963 | 2.2                         | 0.04                                      |
| 1964 | -                           | 0.04                                      |
| 1965 | -                           | -                                         |
| 1966 | -                           | -                                         |
| 1967 | -                           | -                                         |
| 1968 | -                           | 0.06                                      |
| 1969 | -                           | -                                         |
| 1970 | -                           | -                                         |
| 1971 | -                           | -                                         |

## CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Four steers and heifers (5 in 1970) were found to carry the larval stage cysts of the tape worm, taenia saginata of man; all cysts were found in the heart or head and searches of other sites of predilection proved negative in all cases. All affected carcasses were subjected to cold storage in accordance with the specified time and temperatures.

The following table indicates the prevalence of Cysticercus Bovis during the last 18 years.

| Years       | Average Five Years                                         |                                               |            |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------|
|             | Bovines Slaughtered<br>and Inspected<br>(Excluding Calves) | Number of Cases<br>Cysticercus<br>Bovis Found | Percentage |
| 1954 - 1958 | 2,222                                                      | 3                                             | 0.14       |
| 1959 - 1963 | 2,081                                                      | 7                                             | 0.33       |
| 1964 - 1968 | 2,590                                                      | 17                                            | 0.65       |
| 1969        | 912                                                        | 1                                             | 0.01       |
| 1970        | 457                                                        | 5                                             | 1.09       |
| 1971        | 428                                                        | 4                                             | 0.93       |

| FRESH MEAT, QUANTITY CONDEMNED, 1971           |      |      |     |     |
|------------------------------------------------|------|------|-----|-----|
| Detail                                         | Tons | Cwts | Qrs | Lbs |
| <u>DUE TO DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS</u> |      |      |     |     |
| Carcases, parts and organs of Oxen             | -    | 7    | 1   | 21  |
| Carcases, parts and organs of Sheep            | -    | 1    | 3   | 18  |
| Carcases, parts and organs of Pigs             | -    | -    | 3   | 22  |
| <u>DUE TO TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>                |      |      |     |     |
| Carcases, parts and organs of Oxen             | -    | -    | -   | -   |
| Carcases, parts and organs of Pigs             | -    | -    | 2   | 10  |
| Total                                          | -    | 10   | 3   | 15  |

#### DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT

Condemned meat is taken away by contractor in a locked container labelled "Condemned Meat" and is processed into animal foods or fertilizer.

#### MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963

These Regulations came into force on the 1st October, 1963. The Council decided to levy the maximum charges allowed, viz :-

13p per horse or bovine other than a calf; 4p for each calf or pig; 3p for each sheep, lamb or goat.

The total charges levied on the slaughterhouse owners for the year 1971 amounted to £91.27 which was paid into the general rate fund.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933 - 54

Thirteen slaughtermen's licences were issued in 1971.

## FACTORIES

Because of the limited responsibilities under the Factories Acts, no routine visits were made to factories but the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, Clean Air Acts and the Noise Abatement Act were not overlooked; if any of this legislation demanded that a visit to a factory be made then the opportunity was taken to do a complete inspection. There were 117 factories on the register at the end of the year.

Only a few outworkers remain in the District and are employed by hat, shoe and clothing manufacturers.

The table below shows the number of inspections made.

| Premises                                                                                                  | Number<br>on<br>Register | Number of  |                    |                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|                                                                                                           |                          | Inspection | Written<br>Notices | Occupiers<br>Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.                      | -                        | -          | -                  | -                       |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.                     | 117                      | 24         | -                  | -                       |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding outworkers' premises). | 27                       | 4          | -                  | -                       |
| Totals                                                                                                    | 144                      | 28         | -                  | -                       |

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

An effort was made to improve the routine inspection of offices and shops and resulted in 93 visits being made; these revealed 29 infringements, all of which received attention following an approach to the management.

Three accidents were reported during the year; all were investigated.

Statistics of Registers and contraventions are shown on pages 47 and 48 .

TABLE I

REGISTRATION & GENERAL INSPECTIONS

| Class of Premises                                | Number of premises registered during the year. | Number of registered premises at end of year. | Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year. |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Offices                                          | 2                                              | 42                                            | 10                                                                            |
| Retail Shops                                     | -                                              | 136                                           | 9                                                                             |
| Wholesale shops,<br>Warehouses                   | 1                                              | 11                                            | 4                                                                             |
| Catering establishments open to public, Canteens | -                                              | 25                                            | 15                                                                            |
| Fuel storage depots                              | -                                              | 7                                             | 1                                                                             |
| Totals                                           | 3                                              | 221                                           | 39                                                                            |

Total number of visits by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act - 93.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE II

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

| Section | Number of Contraventions found |   | Section | Number of Contraventions found                           |           |
|---------|--------------------------------|---|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 4       | Cleanliness                    | 2 | 13      | Sitting facilities                                       | -         |
| 5       | Overcrowding                   | - | 14      | Seats (Sedentary Workers)                                | -         |
| 6       | Temperature                    | 3 | 15      | Eating facilities                                        | -         |
| 7       | Ventilation                    | - | 16      | Floors, passage & stairs                                 | 7         |
| 8       | Lighting                       | 1 | 17      | Fencing exposed parts of machinery                       | 1         |
| 9       | Sanitary conveniences          | 6 | 18      | Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery     | -         |
| 10      | Washing facilities             | 3 | 19      | Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery | -         |
| 11      | Supply of drinking water       | 1 | 23      | Prohibition of heavy work                                | -         |
| 12      | Clothing accommodation         | - | 24      | First Aid                                                | 2         |
|         |                                |   |         | Other matters                                            | 3         |
|         |                                |   |         | <b>TOTAL</b>                                             | <b>29</b> |

### NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1961

A total of 14 complaints were received allødging nuisance from noise at 9 premises; all were investigated and 6 were confirmed as giving rise to nuisance. The offences were remedied after informal action and so it was not necessary to institute legal proceedings. The causes of the noises complained of were varied and in several cases arose from works of a temporary nature which, after informal approach, were reduced or stopped during night time.

Hydroplane racing has continued at Bodymoor Heath on alternate Sundays; two complaints were received but the situation, under the control of the Midlands Hydroplane Club, is generally satisfactory.

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### COLLIERY SPOIL BANKS

The Baddesley Colliery Spoil Bank, which was commenced in 1955, was well-maintained and kept free from nuisance throughout 1971. The layering and consolidation of the spoil has proved successful and the internal heat and fire is not superficially evident.

There is only one other coal mine in our District (Birch Coppice), which has a burning spoil bank in current use; it is so situate that nuisance to residents does not occur.

## AIR POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

At the end of 1970, a firm of hat manufacturers, whose factory is situated within the town of Atherstone, was warned that further infringements against the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958, would lead to prosecution.

Timed observations, carried out early in 1971, revealed that the offences were continuing; consequently the Council authorised the institution of legal proceedings. The case was heard in the Magistrates' Court at Nuneaton on the 25th March and the Company was fined a total of £105, being £15 on each of seven offences: the offences included continuous emissions of dark smoke in excess of four minutes; emissions of dark smoke for more than ten minutes in aggregate in periods of eight hours; and emissions of black smoke for more than two minutes in aggregate in a period of half an hour. Later in the year, the existing sprinkler type mechanical stoker was replaced by a chain grate; no serious emissions of dark smoke have been observed since the modification.

Close observation is still being kept on another factory chimney where offences occur from time to time; the Company is giving consideration to changing the type of mechanical stoker in use if modifications in the operation of the existing apparatus fail to prevent emissions of dark smoke.

The Liaison Committee, set up in 1970, to examine air pollution in the Tame Valley has had a number of meetings during the year.

### Prior Approval and Chimney Heights

During the year 9 notifications of the installation of furnaces, together with applications for 'prior approval' were received and granted; plans were submitted in respect of one grit arrestment plant and approved after modification; 6 applications were received in respect of chimney heights, all were approved but alterations were required in 3 cases.

### Measurement

The measurement of air pollution, in collaboration with the Warwickshire Clean Air Council and the Department of Trade and Industry's laboratory at Warren Spring was continued throughout the year.

The instruments in regular use are three daily volumetric instruments, all being the eight port type, and one deposit gauge at Atherstone. The Table I following gives results from the deposit gauge, whilst figures 3 and 4 on pages 52 and 53 give the results obtained from the daily volumetric instrument at the Council Offices.

TABLE I

| Month     | <u>Deposit Gauge</u><br><u>Total Deposit in</u><br><u>mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day</u> |                   |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
|           | Ather-<br>stone                                                                | County<br>Average |
| January   | 154                                                                            | 180               |
| February  | 122                                                                            | 133               |
| March     | 199                                                                            | 179               |
| April     | 461                                                                            | 179               |
| May       | 191                                                                            | 164               |
| June      | 216                                                                            | 202               |
| July      | 273                                                                            | 189               |
| August    | 125                                                                            | 166               |
| September | 94                                                                             | 115               |
| October   | 133                                                                            | 152               |
| November  | 163                                                                            | 177               |
| December  | 149                                                                            | 120               |

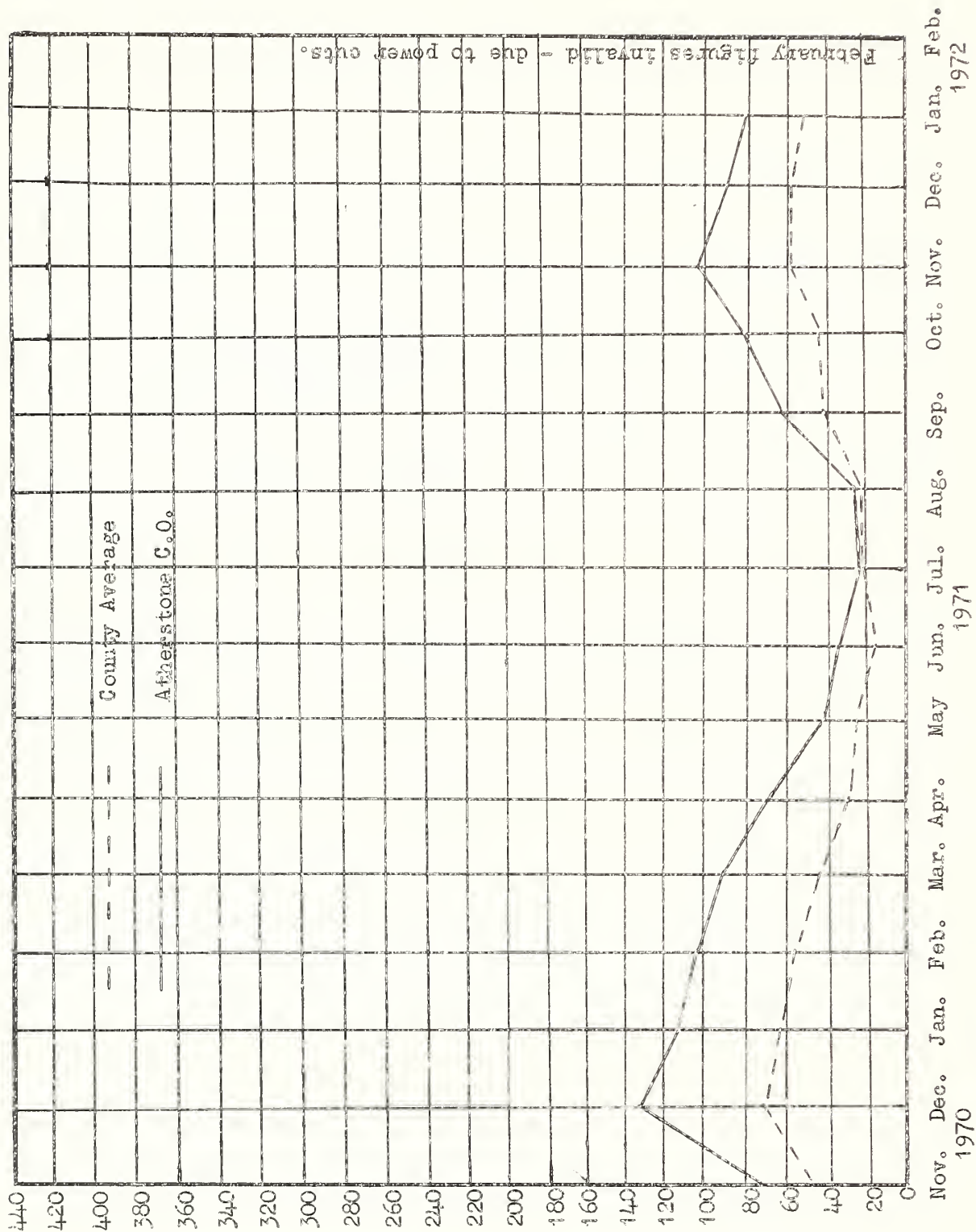


FIG. 3. SMOKE MEASURED BY DAILY VOLUMETRIC INSTRUMENT IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE.

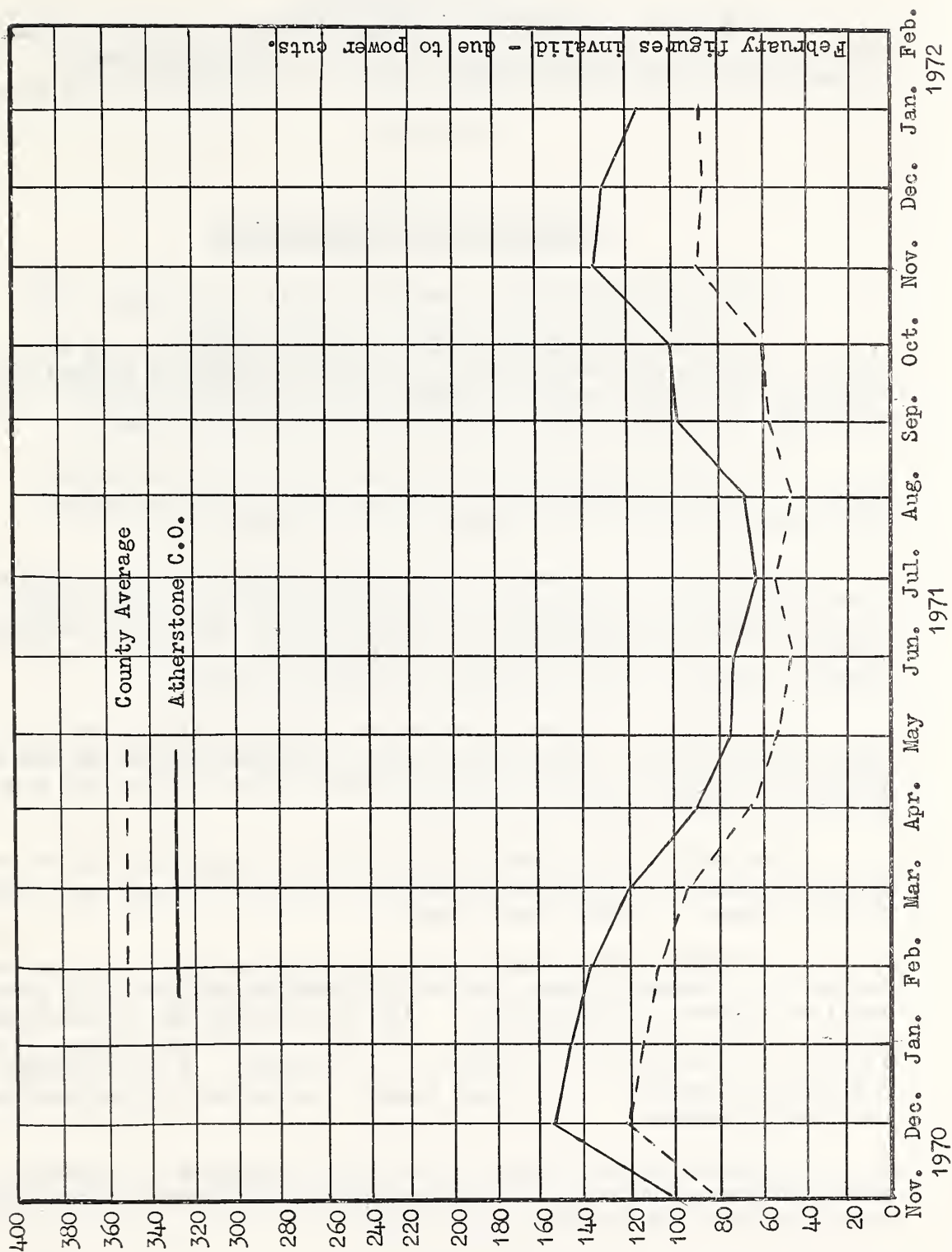


FIG. 4.

SULPHUR DIOXIDE MEASURED BY DAILY VOLUMETRIC INSTRUMENT  
IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

There were no premises in the District where offensive trades were being carried on, but a new factory for processing animal by-products was in course of construction.

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## EXTERMINATION OF RATS AND MICE

Contract Rodent Control commenced on the 1st January, 1957.

At the end of 1971, the value of Annual Contracts held was £942; Contracts to the value of £1,005 were immediately renewed for the year 1972; this figure includes a 10% increase in charges. All Contracts are made to expire on the 31st December each year.

All contract-holding premises are visited once each month after an initial extermination of rats and from 5 to 25 protected Warfarin baiting points are maintained at all premises.

Sewage works, refuse tips and Council Depots are dealt with on a Contract basis. We contract to the North East Warwickshire Water Board to keep their pumping station areas, depots and service reservoir grounds free from infestations, and similarly to the National Coal Board in respect of six collieries and a large workshop.

One full-time Rodent Operative is equipped with a 5 cwt. van, tools and materials. His diligent work is encouraged by giving him a pecuniary interest in the form of a 5% bonus on the value of all contracts held at the 14th December in each year.

The cost of the Rodent Control Service, excluding administration, is in the region of £1,750 per annum but, because of income, only about £800 per annum is a direct rate charge.

248 (325 in 1970) complaints of infestations were received in the year. 42 were of mice; being 39 at dwelling-houses, 2 at schools, and 1 at a petrol filling station. All the reported 206 infestations of rats were of a minor character; 170 were at dwelling-houses, 8 at farms, 7 at factories, 5 at shops, 1 at a school, 3 at collieries, 4 at public houses, 1 at a sewage works, 3 at petrol filling stations and 4 at allotments.

Contract terms are offered for farms and places of business, or exterminations carried out at cost plus 20% establishment charges, but dwelling-houses are treated free of cost.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Six licences were granted; the premises were kept in a satisfactory condition.

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ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Five premises were registered under the provisions of this Act.





